

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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ANNEXATION OF HAWAII ESSENTIAL TO AMERICAN COMMERCE.

Leadership in the commerce of the Pacific ocean is the natural heritage of the United States, because the foremost in ability among the many civilized nations inhabiting its coasts. That commerce is barely in its infancy, but full of promise of a giant development. Three powers are already on hand to contest strenuously for the leadership, Great Britain, Japan and Russia. Here as elsewhere on the ocean, Great Britain is far ahead of all competitors. Russia is preparing to enter the game in force, as soon as her Siberian railway is opened.

It needs little discernment to perceive that a great advantage in this competition will be held by any power which possesses the Hawaiian Islands, on account of their location centrally in the ocean and at the precise intersection of the great natural lines of traffic. But no power so occupying the group would have as great an advantage as the United States, by reason of a proximity which enables America to rapidly fill the Islands with a population of her own people, as well as easily to hold and defend them. While the distance of Hawaii from the American continent, 2100 miles, is within easy communication and control, it is far enough for a powerful outreach of America into the center of the Pacific traffic. If populated by Americans, Hawaii will constitute a very mighty American outpost for the purpose of dominating the commerce of this ocean.

The elements which are to contribute to this commerce are such as to render certain an enormous development at no distant period. On one side of the ocean are the 350 millions of China and the 40 millions of Japan, both nations highly civilized and productive. On the southwest is Australia, soon to count five and then ten millions of the powerful and commercial British people. The American Pacific States will in a few decades number ten millions, while the western section of the Canadian Dominion will probably soon number a million. By the end of the Twentieth century it is reasonable to expect European populations of forty millions each in Australia and on the Pacific coast of North America. The commerce now growing and to be developed in the future between such great populations demands active and timely provision.

Honolulu, the capital of Hawaii, is the central port of Pacific commerce. What record is given there of its growth? As the most positive test, take the following brief tabulation of the number of ocean steamers arriving at the port of Honolulu in the last quarters of 1890, 1893 and 1896:

	Brit.	Am.	Jap.	Tot.
1890.....	5	9	0	14
1893.....	11	7	1	19
1896.....	22	13	4	39

Notice the number of steamship arrivals has nearly doubled in three years, and is now three a week. Observe also how rapidly the British numbers are outstripping the American, being now 56 per cent of the whole, while American arrivals are only 33 per cent. At the present rate of increase of trans-Pacific steamer traffic, there seems indicated a probability that within ten years there will be 30 arrivals a month at Honolulu.

It is nearly certain, however, that a new and highly stimulating element is soon to enter the steam traffic of the Pacific, especially that part which must call at Honolulu. That is the opening of a canal at either Panama or Nicaragua, prob-

ably the latter. A vast fleet of steamers will soon commence running from Atlantic ports via Nicaragua to China and Japan. Nearly all of these will naturally call at Honolulu to replenish their coal supply. These may possibly double the number of steamers arriving monthly at Honolulu.

Now it is nearly certain that the great majority of those steamers will be British. Consider the natural effect upon Honolulu of being visited by say forty British steamers a month, to perhaps ten American. Unless Hawaii is previously occupied by an American population, and is an American country, it must inevitably succumb to this preponderating British commercial influence. British merchants and agents will naturally multiply and possess the commerce and the country. The advantage thus lost will not be easy to recover; nor will it be so easy at a later day to take possession of what is already practically in other hands.

At the present time Hawaii is substantially an American country, and is practically in American hands. That is, American ideas and institutions predominate, and a major part of the business and the wealth of the country is in American hands. A very healthy and patriotic American colony of seventy-five years' growth is reaching its fourth generation. It has been nourished by the immense aid of the Treaty of Reciprocity. It has greatly benefited by proximity to the mother land. Yet, notwithstanding those advantages, a British colony of nearly half its size has grown up with it. With the powerful stimulus of an overwhelming British commerce calling here, it seems certain that the latter class will outgrow the former unless this group is speedily adopted as a part of the great Union. Annexation will result in pouring upon Hawaii an influx of American population which will at once fix its destiny as the great western outpost and fortress of American domination over the commerce of the Pacific.

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM.

The birthday, the 38th anniversary of the German Emperor, was celebrated at the German Consulate yesterday.

The young Emperor is probably the most conspicuous man now living. The young Tsar of Russia hardly holds in his hands more destinies of men.

It is not easy to comprehend the awful responsibility of this man with his "lidless" watch on the Rhine, and the range of the shotted guns of the French on his frontier.

The young Emperor is wise and strives patiently to keep the peace of Europe. If he at times has shown some impatience toward the earth-consuming Briton, it is because he is ambitious for the Fatherland, and wishes to secure to his people a share in the trade of the world.

We, who live beyond wars and the rumors of wars, are surprised at the patience and fortitude of the intelligent German people, who submit to a military system which is almost despotic, because of the angry looks of the Frenchmen. It is an awful penalty they pay, because they are in the central part of Europe. A race of men, peaceful and thoughtful in habit, lovers of home and children, are converted, by their environment, into a military camp. Nearly every home looks out on a battery of artillery. The mothers see their boys using up several of the best years of their lives among the battalions. A nation of scholars, students and scientists sleep with guns in their hands. Yet, in spite of these drawbacks, the commercial spirit of the nation grows, and its merchants are keen competitors with the best merchants of the world.

Above all these men and interests is the young Emperor, with his

vast burden of care. He knows that the day of wars for personal ambition are over, and only wars between races and interests are possible, and that inevitably in these days war is a loss and not a gain. It is said by the impartial observers that he makes far less mistakes than one might expect, in a position before the world, upon which the fiercest light beats, and in which new relations must be dealt with every day.

THE PLANTERS' RESPONSIBILITY.

The sugar planters and their associates are, in fact, the most aggressive politicians in the Islands. They are not conscious of it, and may impatiently deny it, but if they will think it out, will see that they are the real State builders, just as the little coral insects are the builders of islands without being conscious of it.

Even the children, who take their first lessons in the way communities are organized, learn that the agricultural classes are the back bone of a State. All the wise men say so, and have said so for centuries. Of course, despotism, and the power of the sword may keep this class down for a while, but, in the end it makes the character of the State. A Chinaman bought a pair of trousers in California, put on a plug hat, then got drunk and shouted: "Me all same 'Melican man," but he was not, in spite of his wishes, a builder of Anglo-Saxon institutions.

As the planters, as a rule, select the laboring population, they make the foundations of the State, and are responsible for it. This responsibility cannot be shifted off upon the Government, unless it is one of absolute despotism.

In the struggle for sugar plantation existence, the planters do not think much about this great responsibility, and in the remote districts are hardly conscious of it. They leave this troublesome business to the Government, or some other body, or trust that a kind Providence will keep things in order, and make atonement for any mistakes or sins. But the responsibility cannot be renounced. Every time the planter puts a new laborer in the field he touches our civilization. He puts a new brick into the political structure.

The situation, here, is singular, because sugar making is the one great industry. If there were another large industry, it would share the responsibility of the sugar planter, if it put many laborers on the soil. But there is no other large industry, and the planter must stand alone in his responsibility. He cannot shift it upon the Government. The men in the Executive building are, in fact, mere figureheads, as they are generally in all Governments, unless they become revolutionists and break up things as the leaders of the French revolution did.

The management of a plantation is a worrying affair, and leaves little time for those who own it to speculate on political problems. "Let us not cross the bridges until we reach them." But there are invisible bridges—moral bridges—which are unseen, but have all the strength of iron and stone, and communities reach them and are on them without knowing it.

So, in spite of himself, the planter sticks into the ground political seed alongside of his sugar cane seed, and the growth of both seeds affects him financially and politically.

CAPTAIN PALMER.

It is said, with some authority, that Capt. Julius Palmer has organized a royal court in Boston, and re-crowned Mrs. Dominis, who is addressed as "Your Majesty." Mrs. Dominis is probably not a party to it. Her life has

been made miserable by a set of stupid advisers, in times past who could not see the drift of things and now she knows it. As she voluntarily resigned, or, as the lawyers say, quit-claimed her rights to the throne, it is pretty clear that Captain Palmer has been up to some mischief at her expense. This bold mariner enjoyed for many years the glittering splendor of the fore-castle, and as Monarch of the Seas, instituted a severe etiquette about the minzenmast. It fired him with ambition to do greater things, and circumstances threw him across the path of royalty here. It is believed that he secured, in the early part of the century, some "misfits" of the early Kings, and concealed them in his humble sailors' kit for future use. Conscious as he is of his own princely presence, he is still anxious to parade these faded emblems of a former monarchy. Nothing will please him more than the raging of the wicked missionaries when they behold him, as the Lord Chamberlain, operating his miniature court near Boston Common, conducting himself in a stately procession in aged habiliments around the celebrated frog pond. It puts him at once among the choice ones who have risen from nothingness to glory. It is the ascent from the salt junk barrel to the Master of Royal Ceremonies.

As he has a deep-seated horror of leprosy, and disinfected himself hourly when he was with us, he will naturally handle all things pertaining to Hawaiian royalty with long silver tongs. Even the visiting cards, which he takes as Lord Chamberlain, will be presented to "Her Majesty" in these long and disinfected silver clutches.

This queer little man has not much to live for, and if he loves to sit for a while in the darkness of a dead monarchy, with some of its decorations illuminating his gold-threaded pea jacket, we must not begrudge him the pleasure of it. It is more than probable that he is, as the boys say, playing Mrs. Dominis. If he is not, it is because she, and not he, has the sense to forbid it.

THE SUGAR BOUNTY.

Mr. McKinley affirmed during the late campaign his belief in the system of paying sugar bounties. When he secured the passage of the law providing for them, he believed that it was not in conflict with the constitution, and he now believes so.

The late decision of the Supreme Court of the United States dodged the issue when the Louisiana men tried to enforce the payment of bounties due. The broad question whether or not Congress may vote bounties is yet to be settled, but the indications are that the Supreme Court will put as small limitations as possible on the freedom of Congress to promote trade.

Mr. McKinley believes in free coffee, free tea and free sugar. There is no question about that, for he says so. The present duty on his sugar is not his work; he would return to the bounty system if he could, and he will do so whenever he can see his way clear to it. The present condition of the finances of the country may delay action for some time.

But if the bounty system is again adopted, and these Islands remain independent, no bounties under any form of reciprocity treaty would probably be paid to the planters here, for the reason that the amount required for that purpose would startle the rural Congressmen. No objection would perhaps be made to the payment of a moderate amount of money, but the flat appropriation of several millions to a distant sugar interest, mainly sustained by contract labor, would raise a howl among the constituents of Congressmen.

Immediate annexation removes

the danger of losing any advantage which may arise out of American legislation. The scheme of paying bounties on the sugar beet industry is one of indirect taxation which admirably deceives the voters, as all indirect taxation does. The politicians see the power in politics of the farmers' wives who do up the "preserves" which go so deeply into the simple farmer's life. The bounty aids the sugar producer and keeps the women quiet.

Some mixture of the two systems, that of tariff duty and that of bounty, may be adopted. There is no certainty of permanent legislation in these days. It is the best for us to go where the uncertainty of legislation will affect us the least.

The English papers comment on the case of an educated but unscrupulous man who went before a board of civil service examiners and got a certificate for a position. This he sold to some inefficient person and then moved off to another place, and before another board got another certificate, which he also sold. The purchasers of the certificates were not identified, and got the positions. The man's superior intelligence enabled him to practice this lucrative fraud of selling certificates for some time, until he betrayed himself by wearing "toe caps" on his shoes. It is quite possible that he had been a tourist on these Islands and had picked up the trick from some of our sagacious Chinese. Much may be learned here, if the student is diligent.

Major Pangborn prints in the New York Sun a long and interesting letter on Hawaiian matters. He presents with much force the reasons for annexation, and says, as all travelers with gifted souls say, that we are a very nice lot of people, and deserve to be well treated. He suggests that if we are annexed that there should be special legislation by the Federal Congress in our behalf, so that we can retain our best men in the Government. This is, of course, most desirable. But we can hardly expect Congress will tender us the cup of democracy with filtered water in it. We must take the political doses which the average American community takes. There is no patent medicine for democratic digestion.

If Mr. Sherman is the next Secretary of State, we may find him rather critical about our matters. But he is a just and fair man. He has not been quite satisfied, for some years, with the results of reciprocity—not only because he thought we were getting the best of it, but because he believed that the planting interest did not care a snap for the "moral" side of the question, and had persuaded themselves that the trade consideration was the only one which the Americans kept in mind. This is the truth of the matter. But we are all learning much as we grow older. Mr. Sherman should be regarded as an unprejudiced man, even if he does not love us to death.

The Australians complain because they do not obtain the best prices for their beef in the London market. The American beef does much better because it is corn-fed. The Queenslander says that the cattlemen have regarded quantity rather than quality, and must suffer for it. The cattlemen would like "protection" in the British market, but the simple minded scholars tell them that quality is the best "protection" the world over.

It is said in Canton, China, that one of the censors has just submitted a petition to the Emperor asking that a gold currency be established. The memorialists state that China is suffering great loss from the silver currency. The free coinage people of the States claim that silver is the cause of prosperity in Mexico,

China and Japan. Before the question is again debated it would be well for them to send out some visiting committees to the Orient and get at the facts.

What the Maui's Want.

The idea of the Maui baseball team, in applying for admission into the Honolulu league this season, is considered sound by cranks who have given some thought to the subject. They have already in Honolulu three or four members of a strong nine. The remainder of the team would come down, say in July, for two weeks to 20 days, which would enable them to play a game with each of the three local clubs. Of course, the local clubs would be expected to make like trips to Maui.

Official Calls.

British Commissioner Hawes paid an official call on H. B. M. S. Icarus yesterday morning.

In the afternoon Minister Cooper, Minister of Foreign Affairs, paid his official call in the military barge.

Blake Arrested.

Captain Blake, or Tallard as he is known in Victoria, was arrested by Detective Kaapa at 2 o'clock this morning for supposed connection with a big opium deal. He was locked up with his trunk at the station.

The Outlook, a weekly paper of New York, formerly called the Christian Union, and printed in quarto form, has been changed to the magazine or octavo form. The change very much improves it, and must render it more popular with its readers, than when in the quarto form. It is understood that this octavo form will soon be adopted by other leading quarto publications, and eventually may become the only form in which weekly papers will appear, as the cost of publication is but slightly increased, and the convenience to the reader is greatly enhanced.

Very old people need from a third to half as much food as when in their prime.

BORN.

HIPPA.—At Maternity Home, Honolulu, Tuesday, January 26, 1897, to the wife of Nahora Hippa, a son.

STACKER.—In this city, January 28, 1897, to the wife of J. T. Stacker, a 12-pound daughter.

Tired

Without exertion, weak, weary and depressed. This is the pitiable condition of thousands at this season. It is due to impoverished blood. The vital fluid has become loaded with impurities and depleted in quality. It leaves the system

Weak

Because the blood is the means nature provides for supplying nerves, organs and tissues with nourishment, and health and vigor cannot be expected when the blood is thin and impure. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the remedy for this weakness, because it enriches the blood. It cures

Nervous

Troubles from feeding the nerves upon pure, rich blood. It overcomes that tired feeling, creates an appetite and gives refreshing sleep. If you want to feel well you must have pure blood. You may have pure blood and good health by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, which, by its unequalled record of cures has won the first place among medicines. Get only

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills easy to buy, easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.

HOBSON DRUG COMPANY.

Wholesale Agents.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Hawaiian Fruit and Taro Company will be held at the office of the company at Wailuku, Maui, on Saturday, the 13th day of February, A. D. 1897, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year.

A. N. KEPOIKAI, Secretary.

Wailuku, Maui, January 16, 1897.

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NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that at the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Hilo Portuguese Sugar Mill Company, Limited, held at the company's office, in Hilo, Hawaii, on the 15th day of January, A. D. 1897, the following officers were elected for the year 1897:

J. G. Serrao.....President
J. S. Canario.....Vice President
Antonio Carvalho.....Secretary
J. J. Furtado.....Treasurer
J. M. Gouvea, Sr.....Auditor

The above officers constitute the Board of Directors of the said company.

(Signed) ANTONIO CARVALHO, Secretary.

Dated at Hilo this 15th day of January, 1897. 1831-4t